

REPUBLICANS ON STATEHOOD

Guthrie, O. T., Aug. 1.—The committee consisting of C. M. Cade of Shawnee, E. E. Havens of Elmhurst, C. M. Barnes of Guthrie, A. J. Seay of Kingfisher and C. P. Lincoln of Reno, appointed to prepare a statehood article conforming with the territorial platform has concluded its work. The article presents strong arguments why Oklahoma should have immediate statehood, and gives the history of the statehood fight, defining the positions of the two parties upon this important question. The article is addressed to the Republicans of Oklahoma, and is a part of the campaign which will be waged from this time on for statehood for Oklahoma regardless of the demands of other territories or political parties.

The statement of the statehood situation in full is as follows:

To the Republicans of Oklahoma:

At the meeting of the Republican territorial committee of Oklahoma, held in the city of Guthrie June 27, 1902, the undersigned were appointed a committee to address the Republicans of Oklahoma on the subject of statehood. In pursuance of the duty assigned us, we call your attention to the resolutions unanimously adopted by the committee, and also to the following considerations bearing upon the subject.

PARTY PLATFORMS.

In all of its recent conventions, the Republican party of Oklahoma has unanimously declared, through its platforms of principles, in favor of statehood for Oklahoma, qualified only by a condition that the assent of Oklahoma may be given, if so desired, by congress, to the admission of Indian Territory at a future time, if congress should demand it desirable to so attack it.

The Democratic party is actively opposing the admission of Oklahoma, unless it can be secured by a union with the Indian Territory. Its attitude is statehood with the Indian Territory or nothing at this time.

IMMEDIATE SINGLE STATEHOOD IMPOSSIBLE.

Statehood with the Indian Territory is practically impossible until after the expiration of treaties with the Indians, which obligate the government not to extend state government over them prior to the expiration of those treaties in 1904. No one supposes that congress will ignore or override those treaties. Nor will congress relinquish its control over the affairs of that territory, until the chaotic conditions affecting the rights of the Indians, and the titles to lands have been fully settled; and until work will result in an uncertain period of time. In the opinion of the secretary of the interior, who has charge of it, as expressed during his recent visit through Oklahoma, from three to five years will be required. The policy of single statehood advocates, therefore, is to obstruct and hinder measures looking to immediate statehood for Oklahoma, and defeat her admission, until conditions are such that congress can consolidate the two territories into a single state.

DEMOCRATIC NOTIONS AND MISREPRESENTATIONS.

The motive that prompts the leaders of the Democratic party in Oklahoma, in their policy of obstruction and delay, is the hope of securing political supremacy by a final union with the Indian Territory. Well knowing that conditions are such as to make the passage of a single statehood bill at this time practically impossible, and hopeless, they endeavor to entice Republicans into alliance with them, and to hold their own reluctant and impatient followers in submission, by persistent representations that immediate single statehood can be secured.

For the same reason they are tireless in declaring that statehood for Oklahoma is impossible; that the failure of the Omnibus bill in the last congress demonstrated that congress will only consent to a single state. As to this assumption, the truth is that the Omnibus bill failed solely because of the opposition to New Mexico and Arizona. Most of the senators who opposed the bill would have voted for a bill admitting Oklahoma alone. Not more than three senators have ever indicated that their vote for Oklahoma would be conditioned on the union of the two territories. Several senators who opposed the Omnibus bill indicated their readiness to vote for an Oklahoma bill and not a dozen votes would have been cast against such a measure in the senate. In fact, it was well known that the Omnibus bill, with all the hostility to New Mexico and Arizona, had a safe majority of from twelve to twenty votes, and that it would have passed the senate by nearly twenty majority, if the vote could have been taken; that it only failed because of parliamentary proceedings, which prevented the taking of a vote; thus showing that Oklahoma was strong enough to win for herself and at the same time carry the burden of New Mexico and Arizona, also.

In the face of these well known facts, Democratic politicians and newspapers continue to assert that Oklahoma's claims to statehood were adversely settled by the fate of the Omnibus bill. The truth is the attitude of senators and the discussion in the senate upon the bill clearly demonstrated that a bill for the admission of Oklahoma can be passed and that no other kind of statehood bill can possibly be passed at this time.

No republican who will investigate the facts need be misled by the deceptive representations of the opposition to Oklahoma statehood, as to the conditions upon which statehood can be secured.

THE FIRST RESULT.

As to what would be the first result of the admission of Oklahoma with a condition reserving to congress the right to attach the Indian Territory in the future, we have no means of knowing and do not attempt to give an assurance. But we do not think it material to the interests of Oklahoma what congress might do in that respect, and the future judgment of congress, in which, with respect to Oklahoma, we have no voice, but which, as house and senate can be trusted with safety, Oklahoma does not need the Indian Territory and the interests of her people would not be prejudiced if it should never be added.

RESOURCES OF THE TERRITORIES.

Oklahoma is larger than Indiana and about the size of Kentucky, Ohio, Virginia and Tennessee, and has less waste and unproductive soil than either. She has a magnificent grant of lands for summer school purposes and another for the purpose of erecting public buildings, the latter large enough to meet the cost of all the buildings that will be required and guarantee the people against taxation or debt for that purpose. Also, another grant for the erection of buildings for other territory was never so well provided for in these respects as Oklahoma. Other states have been granted, but none have been willing to yield up any part of her rights to govern herself or her full

right to representation in congress, upon any consideration.

These eight states have had the experience of over a century and are contented and prosperous. They have no burdensome debts and their rates of taxation are among the lowest. Either of them would resent as absurd and preposterous a proposition to merge its identity with other states and surrender a part of its political power in the government. Nowhere, except in Oklahoma, have men ever been found clamoring to be limited to only half of the political power within their reach. Nowhere, except in Oklahoma, have men ever disparaged their own country and degraded weakness and poverty as an excuse for desiring to be taken in and governed and, cared for, by somebody else.

THE STRENGTH OF STATES.

It is insisted, also, that the two territories would make a stronger state. Stronger in what respect? It is true that there would be more people under a single government, but their political strength would be reduced instead of increased. Instead of four senators to be heard in the senate, we should have but two. Instead of the consideration and influence which an independent state commands in national and political affairs, we should be limited in that advantage to that of one state instead of two. And no single statehood would be a source of weakness rather than of strength.

TAXATION.

It is asserted that a union with the Indian Territory would make taxes lighter. For the reason above stated, it would be more likely to make them higher. But if it did not, the effect, in any case, would be so small as to be practically immaterial. State taxes, only, would be affected, and these are a small item of tax bills. County, school, city, road and other local taxes make up most of what the people pay and these are not affected in the slightest by state boundaries. In some cases heavy debts have been created and taxation made necessary, for the erection of capital buildings, penitentiaries and asylums for the insane and blind, universities, normal and other schools, and for other public institutions; but, as we have already shown, Oklahoma is already protected against taxation or debt for these purposes. It is only necessary that she should not fritter away her advantages. Indian Territory could bring no benefits to us that would compensate for what we should surrender. The pretense of lighter taxation is a deception.

A BIG STATE.

Again, we are constantly reminded that union with the Indian Territory would make us a "Great, Big, Rich State," but we are not shown that this would benefit the individual citizen, beyond the deceptive claim that it would lighten taxes and this we have already shown to be a delusion. To be a "Great, Big State" might be a cause for empty pride and boasting, but it would not place a single dollar in the pockets of any citizen of Oklahoma. There is nothing practical in it. Whatever wealth there may be in the Indian Territory, will stay there. In the pockets of those who own it. Texas is a "Great, Big, Imperial State," but the individual citizen derives no benefit from that fact and has no advantages over the citizens of Ohio or Indiana. There are of the opinion that Oklahoma, even in her territorial condition, is just as good a place to live, as is the "Imperial State" of Texas; and there are few citizens of Oklahoma who would be willing that the territory should be attached to that "Imperial State." And yet, it would make us a part of great deal bigger and more important state than is attached to the Indian Territory. It might also be better to be governed exclusively by Texas democrats, in Texas, than by a combination of Texas and Arkansas democrats and Indians, in the Indian Territory. But the imperialism of either condition is not attractive.

Oklahoma would not make a small state, but small states are not inferior in economical and good government.

It is also urged that Oklahoma is too small to make a good state. Oklahoma is larger in territorial extent than thirteen states now in the Union, while Ohio, Kentucky, Virginia and Tennessee are so slightly larger as to be practically the same. Her population is now greater than that of most states and is increasing with rapidity that will soon place her in advance of several other states.

Oklahoma would not make a small state in any proper sense. But it is not certain that to be a small state is objectionable. The experience of the country is that the small states are generally the best governed; that they have less debts per capita; lower rates of taxation than the larger states. Delaware, New Jersey, Vermont and West Virginia have practically no bonded debts, while those of the other small states are very light. The rates of state taxation in Vermont, Rhode Island and Maryland are only a little more than one-half as much as they are in the big states of Texas and Missouri. And it does not appear anywhere that the large states have any advantage whatever in securing lighter burdens to the people.

Boodling and other corrupt practices are seldom heard of in the small states. To find these evils of government, it is necessary to go to the large states like New York, Pennsylvania and Missouri. These are the more secure nesting places of official roteness and corruption. Large sources of revenue careless and extravagant expenditures, big salaries, costly buildings and more of them, useless jobs with generous salaries. The opportunities for corruption and the temptations to extravagance are greatly multiplied and crooked paths made more difficult to discover. And the history of small states shows that they are more honestly and economically governed than the large states and at less expense to taxpayers. Their governments are nearer to the people and can be more closely observed and guarded. Corruption and extravagance can not so well hide themselves and more honest and economical methods prevail.

It may be suggested that not one of the small states has ever shown the slightest discontent with its position, nor any indication of a desire for consolidation with any other state. New Hampshire and Vermont put together would not be quite half as large as Oklahoma. Neither of them would seriously consider a proposition to consolidate with the other into a single state. Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island, all combined, are only a little more than one-third as large as Oklahoma. They are contented and at less expense to taxpayers.

Our delegate in congress, Hon. B. S. McGuire, will endeavor to secure the passage of an enabling act at the next session of congress on the lines declared in our platform. He should have hearty support and co-operation of every republican in the territory and we ask that he be cheerfully given.

No difference of opinion as to minor features or details of the statehood question, nor considerations of more local advantages hoped for, should lead any republican into antagonism or factions or position to his party in its efforts to secure early statehood for Oklahoma. There should be no fire in the rear upon our congressional delegate from the republicans, nor invidious co-operation with the political adversaries. With such unity of action we confidently state that

a republican victory on the statehood question can surely be won during the next session of congress.

C. M. CADE, Chairman.

C. M. BARNES

A. J. SEAY

CHAS. P. LINCOLN

H. E. HAVENS.

CYRUS LELAND'S PER DIEM.

Representative Turns Over What Is Supposed to Be Cy's.

Topeka, Kan., Aug. 1.—Representative J. B. Betts of North Topeka brought a check for \$150 to the Capitol office yesterday and instructed this paper to deliver it to the North Topeka relief committee. "This is the amount of per diem and mileage drawn by a certain representative from a county in northeastern Kansas, who was in attendance at the special session of the legislature for the relief of the flood sufferers of Kansas," said Mr. Betts, "and I desire to have it turned over to the people who need it so badly. This gentleman did everything possible to prevent an appropriation for the relief of the thousands of people who had lost their homes. He promptly drew his per diem and also drew mileage, although he was stopping in Topeka at the time the legislature was called together, and did not travel so much as a mile to attend the special session. He drew his mileage just the same and I understand he has cashed in the state warrant for the full amount. Many other senators and representatives have contributed their warrants to the flood sufferers, but up to this time I do not think that the particular member has been heard from. Here's \$150, which you may send to the committee."

Mr. Betts did not mention any names, but a man from the state house, who happened to be standing near by and who is quite familiar with the geography of Kansas, said he believed Mr. Betts must be alluding to Representative Cyrus Leland of Doniphan county. The records show that the amount of Mr. Leland's warrant for mileage and three days' services was \$150, and that the warrant had been cashed.

It might be stated by the way, that Representative Betts of North Topeka lost several thousand dollars by the flood.

KANSAS BOY LOST.

Sergeant at Kansas City Asks Him Pertinent Question.

Kansas City, Aug. 1.—Alfred Kane, a fine boy, 8 years old, from near Stilwell, was found by Officer Ryan this morning at Twelfth and Cherry streets. The boy said that he and a sister are visiting relatives in Kansas City. This morning at about 7 o'clock the boy started to a grocery store on an errand and lost his way.

At No. 4 police station the boy sat on the bench before the sergeant and patiently waiting his sister. One of the officers thought the boy was lonesome. He sat down beside him and asked the only question he knew about the farm.

"Say," he said, "do they have chickens out in Kansas?"

"You bet," said the boy, "they get on yer back where yer can't reach 'em."

FOR OKLAHOMA PRISONERS.

New Contract Will Be Made With Oklahoma Tuesday.

Topeka, Kan., Aug. 1.—Kansas will make a new contract for keeping the Oklahoma prisoners August 4. Governor Bailey and Ferguson will meet at Lansing and sign the papers. There was some fuss about the Oklahoma prisoner contract in the legislature last winter. The statisticians figured it out that Kansas was paying about \$7 a year per man for keeping the Oklahoma felons, but it was finally decided to renew the contract.

MORE OF CARRIE NATION.

Calls Scranton Officer a "Great Beefy Slob."

Medicine Lodge, Kan., Aug. 1.—A dispatch from Scranton, Pa., says: For the second time in less than twenty-four hours Carrie Nation occupies a cell where the superintendent of police put her when she addressed him with "Superintendent, say, I think you are a great big beefy slob." The attorney who appeared for Carrie when she was arrested at Noyau park said he would commence habeas corpus proceedings. Carrie is indignant and threatens vengeance on this city.

REDUCES SCHOOL POPULATION.

New Law Cuts Out Any Liberality on Assessor's Part.

Abilene, Kan., Aug. 1.—The new law for the enumeration of school population is likely to reduce the number shown by the reports to be of school age. The census formerly included all who would reach 5 years during the coming school year and also those who had been 21 during the year past. The result was that the numbers were large. The new law requires the exact birth date and cuts out all not of the required age, prohibiting any liberality on the assessor's part.

Three Thousand Kansas Corporations.

Topeka, Kan., Aug. 1.—The Kansas corporation law has developed the fact that there are about 3,000 corporations in the state. Each of these must file a report and \$1 with the Secretary of State within ninety days after June 1 of each year. Unless they do can neither collect a debt nor defend a suit. Up to yesterday nearly 3,000 corporations had sent in their report and their dollar.

War Pensioner Dead.

Topeka, Kan., Aug. 1.—William P. Nottingham, a pensioner of the civil war, about 70 years old, was found dead in his room at the old Curtis house, in North Topeka, last evening. He had retired to his room shortly after dinner and when called at supper time did not answer. When his room was entered he was found dead on the bed.

GERONIMO'S CONVERSION.

A dispatch to the New York Herald says: Geronimo, in the twilight of his life, has given his Indian belief to God. The one time chief of a murderous band of Apaches has joined the Methodist church. He has taken the solemn vow that makes him a follower of the gospel of love.

It was an impressive moment when the decrepit warrior of the plains bowed his head and received the drops of water that symbolized his change of heart. The old spirit of defiance was gone and in its stead was a gentle mind of submission. The man who had slaughtered innocent women and children, ambushed the back of the law, was under the spell of the prophet of the Great Peace-maker.

Taken from his prison home at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, to a little church net far away, Geronimo professed his new faith before a great crowd of whites and Indians. Geronimo was not alone in his profession. Twelve of the men who had followed him into many a reign of fear and destruction also joined the church. After the ceremony they went back to their prison, where, in the custody of the

New Arrivals

"Queen" Quality shoes are ever on the alert to create newer and better shoe styles. Many of the mid-summer designs are here. We call your attention to the latest shoe novelty, an Oxford of unusual beauty and style. Notice display.

RORABAUGHS

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119-121 NORTH MAIN, WICHITA

"The Store that Has the Goods"

Proper Shoe Service

Each customer needs shoes particularly adapted to her feet. There's a knack in fitting shoes, and the careful shoe man will see to it that your shoes fit properly before you leave the department. There's a pleasure in buying Queen Quality shoes and having them properly fitted.

The Pride of Women Queen Quality Shoes

Their pride because they are such a graceful shoe, so fair to look upon from the standpoint of what is useful in shoes.

Their pride because they are a high grade shoe of intrinsic value that goes upon the feminine foot for a moderate cost.

The high standard of Queen Quality Shoes has been universally recognized. That is evident from the overwhelming business which the endorsement and patronage of American women has brought about.

The sales of Queen Quality, speaking in general, have surpassed all footwear records. And, speaking for us, they have been phenomenal.



If there is anything more than another that contributed to these remarkable sales, it is in the recognized fact that Queen Quality are the most perfect fitting shoes made in America today, and with this perfect fit is perfect ease in wearing. That's a great point. In a word, they combine style with absolute comfort.

In the extensive variety of Queen Quality styles that we carry there are shoes of every use and occasion, from the dainty dress shoe to the sturdiest street boot.

And that is not all: We have special shapes to fit all types of feet.

Made from original designs, as well as exclusive; Queen Quality embodies the finest of leathers conjoined with most artistic fashioning and are always the top-notch of prevailing fashions.

Women who have not worn QUEEN QUALITY SHOES have only to try them to become enthusiastic in their favor.

The Rorabaugh Dry Goods Co.

(INCORPORATED)

Freight Paid on All \$5.00 Mail Orders Within 100 Miles of Wichita

United States government they may spend all their days.

Rarely have the simple prairie folk of the West seen such a ceremony as that which made Geronimo and his little band a part of the great army of Christians. The minister's words were chosen as though he were talking to little children. On one side was a picturesque group of Comanches, on the other the Apache warriors. Each tribe had its interpreter, standing in the foreground repeating the words of the paleface preacher.

The minister told the story of Him of Galilee. The tragedy of the cross was described in words that brought tears to the bronzed cheeks of the men around him.

"Christ came," said the speaker, "not to save the white man alone, but to bring everlasting joy to all the world."

The red men learned how they could receive free and full salvation, how they could pass life to a happy death and from death to another life in the happy hunting grounds which God had prepared for those who loved and followed Him. The chief on the cross was not forgotten in the Scriptural story. This part of the sermon seemed to appeal with peculiar force to Geronimo, about whose withered face played a wan smile.

When the sermon was done the doors of the little church were thrown open and Geronimo and his twelve companions passed inside. They moved to the front and there, through the medium of interpreters, they professed their love for and faith in the white man's God. They wanted to "walk the way of Jesus." They said, and stood for the deeds of the past.

Then Geronimo and the others bowed their heads in turn and were baptized "in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, Amen." Thus the grim old warrior who had terrorized the Southwest for years and defied the majesty of the great father's government, became a Methodist and set his face sternly toward the fast fading sun.

The story of Geronimo and his tribe of hostiles is not unfamiliar to American readers. The tribe was for years the terror of Arizona and New Mexico, where they killed and burned without mercy. Men, women and even children were their victims, and not seldom with ordinary murder, they often mutilated those they slew.

Many attempts to capture the band and bring it to justice were made without success. Finally Lieutenant General Sheridan planned the pursuit, capture and destruction of the band. The expedition against the outlaws was led by the late General George Crook, who came into close conflict with Geronimo March 25, 1886.

To the demand for an unconditional surrender the Apache chief declared that he would give himself up only on condition that the band, with their families, be sent East for a period not exceeding two years, and that they be then returned to the reservation. On the way the Indians surrounded them had gone, the Indians raised the white flag. They were sent to the military post at Mescal, Arizona, but the climate there did not agree with them. Many of the band perished from consumption.

General Miles and Major General Lawton cornered Geronimo in the Four Peaks

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